

AAZK

1972



NATIONAL AAZK BULLETIN

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AAZK NATIONAL CONFERENCE HONOLULU, HAWAII MARCH 27-30 1972
by Ed Roberts, Staff Reporter

Mr. Richard Sweeney, the Executive Secretary of the AAZK, in the opening ceremonies at conference headquarters in the Akala Room of the Queen Kapiolani Hotel on Tuesday March 28, 1972, introduced the Board of Directors and Regional Coordinators attending to the large delegation and then turned the proceedings over to Clyde Saragosa the Conference Chairman, who is also the President of the Honolulu Chapter of the AAZK. Clyde, then introduced Mr. Jack Throp, Director of the Honolulu Zoo, who officially welcomed the delegates.

The keynote address was given by Mr. Roy Shea, Director of the Indianapolis Zoo, who stated, "The public must be made aware of the value of endangered species, therefore it is exceedingly important that the gap, a communications problem between director and keeper, be bridged, so as to disseminate information on these species as soon as possible to the public. Many directors have this knowledge available to them via the Red Data Books, which few if any keepers ever see. It is the director's duty to see that this information is made available to his keepers for obvious reasons." Mr. Shea also stated, "The AAZK is closing this gap between keeper and director, which has long been needed and necessary for the professional operation of new zoo complexes."

Among the many highlights of the conference was a tour of the famous Honolulu Zoo, and Jack Throp pulled out all stops when he took the delegates into the work areas explaining the animals and various flora indigenous to the Hawaiian Islands. Jack was lively and informative and the delegates kept him busy with their questions. The delegates found the exhibits exceptionally clean and the animals in good health.

During the four day conference many papers, motion pictures, slides and graphics were presented. This reporter noted that Mrs. Stewart, Mrs. Gladys Porter, Jack Throp, Roy Shea, Fred Zeehandelaar and members of the Honolulu Hui attended most of the presentations along with the delegates, which is very notable indeed and shows how professional these papers were.

The evening of the opening day found us on the Zoo grounds which were lavishly decorated and set up by the zoo staff for a Royal Hawaiian Luau complete with a Hawaiian instrumental group. If you have never enjoyed a REAL Polynesian Luau, you have really missed a treat. The band was great, ribbing good naturedly some of the gang from Boston, Wisconsin and other places.

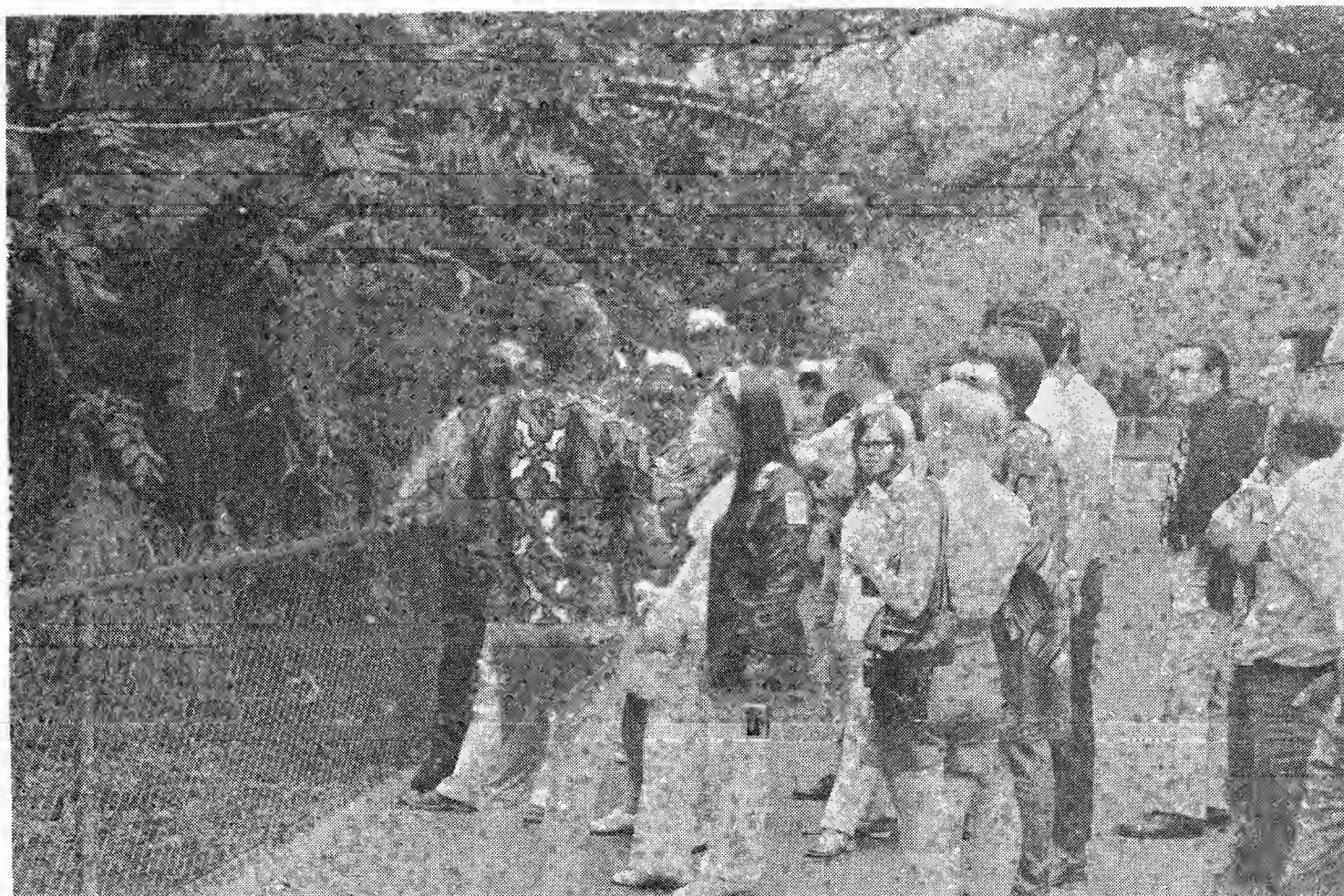
An impromptu Hula, officiated by Eileen Mattos (who also sang a very pretty Hawaiian song written by her husband and herself) with some AAZK volunteers, all dancing to the tune of the Hukilau. Jim Sousa of the Zoo also sang a few songs then Elsie Brong really tuned it on for the crowd with her renditions of Bill Bailey and one of these days. She was positively GREAT!. Elsie is the wife of Gordon Brong of the Folsom City Zoo, Cal. Four pretty damsels then volunteered to do the Hula with Eileen. You can imagine what they did to the Hula! Towards the end of the evenings festivities, Gordon Brong volunteered to auction off some paintings, photos and graphics to help the Ways & Means Treasury and he did a fine job. Ed Schultz of Milwaukee should come in for his share of auction too. Both of them worked hard on this and our thanks to both.

On Wednesday, the delegates assembled to hear more papers and slides

From l.to r.: Mrs.
Gladys Porter, the
First President of
the Valley Zoolog-
ical Society, Tex.;
Mr. and Mrs. James
Stewart; Perry
Alexander, Fresno.



The opening
session at
the Akala
Room, Hotel
Kapiolani



Honolulu Zoo
tour guided
by Director
Jack Throp
(second from
left)

AAZK NATIONAL CONFERENCE HONOLULU (Cont'd)

and then wives, guests and friends were treated to a tour of interesting sights by Virginia Moore of the Zoo staff, of some tourist spots in Honolulu area. Around noon, everyone assembled in the hotel lobby then we were bussed to Sea Life Park for luncheon and saw the whale and porpoise acts and afterwards Jack Throp made it a point to let us go behind the scenes and question the trainers in their work which we all found very interesting.

On Thursday, after the scheduled papers and speeches there was a tour of Waikiki Aquarium and afterwards the popular rap sessions with Perry Alexander's panel which were well attended. Thursday evening started off with the Cocktail Hour and then the Banquet which was held in the Akala Room of the Hotel. During the Cocktail hour we noticed many members getting autographs of Jimmy Stewart. The Stewarts were never more gracious and friendly.

After the excellent dinner, Jimmy and Gloria Stewart both gave a little talk on the organization and the exuberant delegates gave both of these fine people a great hand. Ed. Roberts the P.R. Director was called to the Podium by Dick Sweeney to make the Award presentations. One award went to Director Jack Throp for the wonderful way he treated the delegates during their stay in Honolulu and for boosting AAZK. The second award was given to Mr. Fred Zeelandelaar, wild animal importer from New Rochelle, N.Y. for outstanding achievement and for boosting AAZK, and the third and final award, Ed presented, was the coveted R. Marlin Perkins Award for Excellence in the field of zoo keeping. This year the Award Committee selected Mr. Leroy Woodruff, who has been a zookeeper at the Brookfield Zoo for 42 years. The AAZK salutes this fine keeper. Mr. Dewey Garvey of the Brookfield Zoo accepted the Award in Mr. Woodruff's behalf as Leroy could not make it to the conference.

The final speaker of the evening was Mr. Zeelandelaar, who kept the audience in stitches, while quoting from his book "Zeebongo". It should be noted that the famous AAZK waterhole never dried up.

The AAZK wishes to personally thank the exhibitors who were at this function, Air-Kem of Hawaii, an odor control company, Conference Book Service, who had many, many books available on all types of animals, plus the delegates themselves who brought all kinds of posters and graphics.

A special thanks to Mr. Henry Nakahodo, the Manager of the Queen Kapiolani Hotel, the conference headquarters, for his outstanding help in making this conference a memorable one. Also a special thank you to the Honolulu Hui whose members enjoyed the doings and festivities.

A very special thank you to Gloria and Jimmy Stewart, Honorary Members for being our guests.

A very, very special thank you to the members of the Honolulu Zoo chapter of the AAZK for their friendliness, help and how very well they treated everyone. Also a very special thank you to Jack Throp and his wife, and to his staff. Everyone did an outstanding job and we will ever remember the warmth and charm of these wonderful people.

And finally, last but never least, the one guy who never seems to get the credit he so richly deserves, the guy who gets these conferences set up and coordinated, who has all the headaches and gets all the gripes, but still manages to come up smiling, this reporter tips his hat to the one man who

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makes all of this possible, Dick Sweeny, the National Executive Secretary. Another job, well done Dick, from all of us, our sincerest thanks.

As in every conference, there are and rightfully so, a few post scripts. This reporter took time out for a few personal interviews and since they are a part of this conference they are herewith submitted for your perusal. The quotes are genuine, nothing has been added or deleted. My first interview was with Mr. Jack Throp, Director of the Honolulu Zoo.

Ed: Jack, would you comment on this conference and what intrigued you the most?

Jack: Ed, the professional conduct of the delegates was great. The Boston Zoo people had signs that were of professional quality, and they were something all zoo directors would be wise to look into. I enjoyed the slides by Pat Sass of Lincoln Park Zoo chimps. They were excellent and informative!

Ed: Do you believe that more directors, in order to gain a broader insight into animal behaviour, should attend AAZK conferences? You might be out of a limb on this, Jack.

Jack: Definitely, you see, zoo directors have a tendency to get off the mark due to pressures from outside sources, like politics, fund raising, speeches, T.V. commitments etc, and all that stuff gets you away from the animal business. Actually all directors should have a rapport with their keepers, and there should never be a communications gap. If the directors and keepers could get together at conferences, a lot of problems could be solved.

Ed: Jack, our sincerest thanks for letting me interview you.

The next one Ed interviewed was Mr. Roy Shea, the Director of the Indianapolis Zoo.

Ed: Roy, if you don't mind I'd like to ask you a few questions, but first of all just what personally, did you think of this conference?

Roy: This is the greatest conference I have ever attended, and this is not for anyone's edification. The rap sessions were extremely good.

Ed: Do you think that more zoo directors should attend these conferences and why?

Roy: Well, for one obvious reason and that is, more directors should attend just for keeper-director relationships. Zoo administrators should have more rapport with their keepers. Administratively and professionally, they all need the keepers' help. This conference has proven to me just how professional a zoo keeper is. What I really believe is necessary, is a keeper training program initiated by the director so he keeps his hand in while training others. Too often we lose sight of the fact our zoo keepers are the backbone of our organization. We directors have got to change and time is running out and the AAZK is showing the way.

Ed then interviewed Gloria Stewart, Honorary Member.

Ed: Thank you for the opportunity to talk with you, Mrs. Stewart. Being interested in animals and your presence here at this conference makes the AAZK proud indeed to have you and your husband Jimmy as Honorary

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members. Can you tell me, are you enjoying this conference?

Gloria: This is marvelous. The conference is outstanding, and as you probably have noticed, I have attended most of the presentations and they were all extremely good.

Ed: What in your opinion is the problem today between the keeper relationship to the administrative leadership?

Gloria: Well, being on the Board of Directors really does not give me the chance to either talk with or see the keepers and this definitely should be rectified. Lack of communication, I would say, seems the biggest problem and I've really learned what the zoo keeper does today and I'm really impressed.

Ed: As a member of a zoological society, what are your feelings regarding say pet shops and the like?

Gloria: One of my favorite hates is roadside zoos. They should be abolished completely along with certain pet shops. The only people that should supply animals to zoos, should be certified wild animal importers and dealers, and the public who owns pets and tries to dispose of them to zoos should be put in jail. The public, though, has gained a greater understanding of animal problems and I sincerely believe they are accepting it.

Ed's next interview was with Mr. Fred Zeelandelaar, a fine animal importer from New Rochelle, N.Y.

Ed: Fred, would you mind if I ask you a few questions for the AAZK Bulletin regarding this conference?

Fred: Sit down here, I have a lot to say to you and I want to make sure you get all of this down.

Ed: Verbatim?

Fred: Verbatim. I have attended approximately 85 conventions, large and small, during 20 years of experience in the animal business, sponsored by assorted organizations in the field of zoos, zoo management and animal research conferences ranging from a national level of 2,000 delegates to a regional level of only 20 delegates.

This convention of the AAZK in Honolulu, is by all means and for several reasons one of the very best I have ever attended and the reasons are: (Now put this down)

1. Never have I attended a conference of professional nature being held in a first class tourist hotel, in a world famous tourist location at non-tourist exceedingly reasonable prices with the privileges and luxuries available to the delegates at no extra charge.
2. Rarely, have I seen any conference in this field not only better organized and prepared, but also executed so efficiently and meticulously to benefit the maximum advantage of the program to the attending delegates.
3. The hospitality, both planned and spontaneous, including the quality of food (paid or unpaid by the delegates in their conference fees), was outstanding.
4. This is very important! The professional quality of the papers presented appeared to be of superior caliber for the qualified audience.
5. I found the spirit of the AAZK members comparable to the spirit of

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people who are trying to build or establish new countries in various parts of the world. In many cases and also in the case of the AAZK, the pioneers are fighting the 'professional establishment', with little help both moral and financial.

6. Those who have read my book 'Zeebongo' have noticed in Chapter 8, my judgment of zoo keepers. Some of these zoo keepers have presented papers at the Honolulu conference which many directors could use for their further education in the field of how to care for animals under their command. Finally, without the zoo keepers under the leadership of a qualified head keeper, the zoo director can go home, unless the director just happens to be the head keeper. Now print that!!!

For those who did not attend this conference we can only say, we're sorry you could not make it. We had excellent weather all week long, temperature in the 80's and the water temperature was 74. Many of us did quite a bit of shopping at Ala Moana, swimming and getting tanned. Did anyone get to ride the glass elevator at the Ilikai??? So, until 1974 in Chicago, Aloha and Mahalo!

TO THE COMMITTEE AND ALL AAZK MEMBERS

Editor's Notes: Following is a letter from Leroy Woodruff, the recipient of the Perkins Certificate.

It is with deep appreciation and sincere thankfulness that I accept the R. Marlin Perkins Award. I have great feelings of gratitude. I have enjoyed my many years of service, and the staff and keepers of Brookfield Zoo extend a hearty thank you. Gratefully, Leroy Woodruff

CONGRATULATIONS TO THE AAZK ON A SUCCESSFUL CONFERENCE

from the American Association of Zoological Parks and Aquariums

Oglebay Park, Wheeling, West Virginia 26003

EDITOR'S NOTE: A good many valuable, informative papers were given at sessions at the Honolulu Conference. Following papers were made available to our Bulletin. Thanks to the delegates for preparing them!!

WHAT MAKES AN ANIMAL KEEPER AN ANIMAL KEEPER?

by Jack Throp, Director, Honolulu Zoo

What makes an animal keeper an animal keeper? The American Association of Zoo Keepers' Conference is going to bring a lot of these people into our midst so it might be of help if we tried to understand who they are.

First, they come in two sexes. The occupation was once exclusively for the hairier of the two but recent attitudes have begun to recognize that this exclusiveness is unwarranted. The only major complication created by all this is how to divide the locker room.

The animal keeper must obviously like animals. It would be a rather tasteless job without them, notwithstanding that the animals create a lot of work and anxiety for the keeper.

A daily disappointment is experienced when the keeper has scrubbed an enclosure to his satisfaction so that a bright face is ready for the world to see, and the first animal that passes through leaves an indelible mark of its passing. Oh! woe.

Animal appetites can be most exasperating for the keeper to satisfy. The keeper may be digging earthworms for the salamander, peeling hard-boiled eggs for the monkeys, boiling rice for the flamingos, or chopping fruit in an endless array of sizes, shapes, slices, cubes, chunks, bits, and pieces for lesser creatures. The keeper becomes so proficient at food handling that bananas leap out of their skins one handed and papaya seeds are separated from their better halves with a flick and a flop. And through it all the keepers' talk and thoughts are involved in the daily lives of the animals, life, death, birth, sex, and all the rest of it. A keeper's most indispensable tools are a note book, a pencil, a foreman to complain to, a fellow keeper to commiserate with and a willing, loving heart. All other tools of the trade are built for the hand.

Finally, one very great benefit to being an animal keeper is that everything can be blamed on the zoo director. That raises the question, "What makes a zoo director a zoo director?"

ZOO ELEPHANTS IN GENERAL

by Val De Leon, Knowland Park Zoo, Oakland, Calif.

As a trainer and elephant consultant, I would like to tell you of the wonderful experience I have had with these beasts.

Elephants, like most mammals and humans, are creatures of habit. Most of the time elephants are well--in excellent health--but occasionally they become sick from various causes. An interesting fact about elephants is their moods. They will change from a happy mood to a sad one. Sometimes they will become very excited for no reason at all.
(continued)

ZOO ELEPHANTS IN GENERAL (Continued)

No two elephants are born with the same disposition. Some are blunerring idiots, yet others are quite intelligent! The majority of elephants are average.

Most elephants respond well to training; some elephants have a disposition which makes them easier to work with than others. This is not too good because sometimes later in their lives they learn to be lax and cheat on their commands.

I like an elephant who is strong and will defy me. They are harder to teach and more of a challenge; but once you break them into a trick or command, the chances are you will have a more disciplined animal.

I don't believe that every zoo elephant should be able to do circus tricks; however, I do believe that every young zoo elephant should be able to do the basic commands. A qualified elephant trainer would be needed for this purpose. An elephant should start training after weaning. The best time for this is between two and three years of age.

My basic commands are:

1. Obey legs command for chain hook up, toe-nail trimming and foot inspection.

I am a firm believer, and I agree with my circus friends who say that all elephants should be chained. You should chain one front foot and one back foot when not on display. Also, when secured for the night or disciplinary purposes. This practice is not new. In Asia this has been done for the past hundreds of years. All circus people, both here and in Europe, have followed this routine. This is one of the reasons they have better disciplined elephants in the circus rather than zoos.

For those of you who don't understand, this may sound cruel. I felt this way too before I started training and working with elephants. A few reasons for chaining elephants are as follows:

First of all, when you chain an elephant, you restrain her from all unnecessary body movement. Sooner or later she will understand that you are the master and she has to accept that fact. There is nothing she can do to change this.

Secondly, this is a good way to separate the docile from the rambunctious; the young from the old, and the sick from the healthy.

Third, it makes it very convenient and safe for the veterinarian or zoo staff to work on the animal, should it need medical attention.

Fourth, at feeding time each animal can be assured that she will have the right portion of food, and can eat peacefully in contentment.

Fifth, most trainers will confirm the fact that the elephant that is used to being chained will respond to training more willingly, and will respect you as her master. They will appreciate their master and enjoy their freedom all the more. A lot of the older elephants feel more secure when they are chained. This is sanctuary to them.

2. Belly stretch out and lie down on both sides for washing or
- (continued)

ZOO ELEPHANTS IN GENERAL (Continued)

brushing down. Also to get at hard to reach places, should she need medical attention.

3. Another important basic command that I use for a definite purpose is something to say that occupies her attention immediately. This could save a keeper's life. My command for this is "pick up your tire." Yours might be, "look out the window," "bring me a stick," or various sound commands that the animal is taught to respond to immediately. Sometimes we lose control of our animals. The animal can become excited or enraged and we need a key word or command that is easy to respond to that brings her mind back into focus.
4. Head, front and hind foot stand for muscles and body coordination. This induces bowel movement. Being in confinement, she needs this muscle control exercise.
5. Be able to stop, go, back-up and stand at attention on verbal commands. If for nothing else, you might want her to pose for publicity shots so this is a pose command or obedience test.

I think it is very important that a capable elephant trainer work with a new elephant as early as possible. The early training phase is when there is more chance of injury to both man and elephant, and the lasting impressions are made early in the elephant's life. It is important that the keepers work with the trainer because really keepers and elephant are both being trained at the same time. This would help the trainer to teach the animal the simple basic tricks and commands. With this procedure, the keepers can learn the animal's movements. Since elephants respond to the sound of the words, both the keepers and animals will know the proper commands. This way a lot of headaches and confusion can be avoided later when the trainer is not around. I have personally found this way of communicating wonderful therapy for both man and beast. Animal training is a hard but rewarding job. Sometimes a person will feel like giving it all up, but once you have accomplished a command, the self-satisfaction is terrific.

On the average, a young, healthy elephant moves its bowels about every one and a half hours. As they grow older the intervals are longer. You should make a practice of checking the animal's appetite and manure every day, as this is a fast and almost sure way of determining its health condition from day to day. The average rectal temperature is approximately 97 to 98°F.

A full grown elephant can drink about 37 gallons of water daily; but by the same token, I have seen this same animal refuse food and hardly drink any water for a week and the reason was not known to me.

When there are plenty of fruits and vegetables available, an elephant will barely drink water. A friend of mine, who is an animal trainer and consultant, had five young bull elephants. He fed them hay and 200 pounds of carrots per animal daily for several months. Since carrots contain approximately 90% liquid, the elephants hardly drank any water for a period of three months!!

(continued)

ZOO ELEPHANTS IN GENERAL (Continued)

During the summer months, and on warm days, elephants should be washed daily. If a pool is available, the animal should be trained to bathe itself. This is done by starting in a shallow pool and letting her play in it. Day by day, you should raise the water level slowly. The water level should be stopped when she has her head above the water while standing up.

In winter months, and on cold days, elephants should be brushed with a stiff brush, or better yet, a wire brush. Elephants love to be brushed; and if you talk, sing or whistle to her, she will love it all the more. Brushing stimulates the skin condition and helps the growth of hair.

Also, during extreme cold weather, the elephant should be kept warm and on a dry floor away from draft and cold. I know of an elephant which lost part of her ear from frost bite. Elephants are susceptible to cold; catching cold can affect their appetite and they become stiff and reluctant to move. This will make it difficult for them to lie down, get up, or even walk on the ground. Our seven-year-old elephant caught a cold last year. We gave her 400 cc's of penicillin and streptomycin. Luckily, she recovered in a few days.

One of the first things to do with a newly-acquired young elephant is to check her sole or foot padding. Quite often you will find that the sole of her foot and toenails are in poor condition. By this I mean that there are high and low spots on her foot pads. The toe-nails seem to be pointed and sometimes ingrown. This condition can be remedied by trimming the sole of her foot daily. Her toenails should also be filed daily until it takes the form of being round instead of pointed.

If you are ever in Oakland, you must stop at Knowland Park Zoo. Here you can see our elephant Kimi put on a show that has attracted many people to our Zoo. You can see for yourself how well she responds to verbal commands. Quite a few commands are in the Hawaiian language. Don't just come to see our elephant--visit our Zoo too!

THE ZOO WITH A TOWN---NOT A TOWN WITH A ZOO

by Gordon Brong, Director, Folsom City Zoo, Calif.

Yes! That is the Folsom City Zoo. The largest zoo in the world. Go ahead and raise your eyebrows, we still say it!! We defy anyone, anywhere to say that their zoo is bigger, per-capita wise. We say that there is not another city in the world that has a zoo that can say that ten times their population visit their zoo.

We also say that we are the smallest city in the world with a zoo. There may be smaller towns, but not cities. The smaller town zoos are either county supported or private. I am sure that you all know that a zoo is quite an expensive project for any city to undertake.

First, any project that a city of any size tries to undertake requires that they have the money on hand or the ability to raise the money. About the only way a city can raise money is by raising the taxes, and if you try to do that you have a fight on your hands, especially in a smaller
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THE ZOO WITH A TOWN--NOT A TOWN WITH A ZOO (Continued)

city that tries to keep taxes at a minimum. No one likes to pay high taxes, or should I say higher taxes. We all know that our government is financed by tax money. Our city, our county, our state, and our federal government are all financed by that thing we call taxes. But if we cannot get the tax dollar, we have to get it some other way. We have to scrounge and then scrounge some more. We have to find an angel to help us along the way, or maybe several angels. There are many ways of raising funds that are needed. The best way is good public relations. Give the people that visit your zoo something that they can enjoy and that is different.

We feel that we are doing just that here in Folsom. We have all sorts of discards, orphans, and cripples that the larger zoos would not put on display. Most of the larger zoos want nothing but perfect specimens for display, but not us; we have birds with twisted legs and feet. We have birds with deformed wings, wings that have been broken and that have not healed properly, they hang and droop. We have a beautiful Golden Eagle that has only one wing. Still they make a good display. We have a bear that is all scarred up and lots of people think that he has a skin disease unless they read the sign explaining what happened, or are told. We have several cats that have been badly mistreated and under normal circumstances they would not be worth a darn. We have a lion that was purchased by a pet store for a customer, but when the store got him, the customer decided he was too big and would not take him. The store could not find a buyer, so we have the lion.

We have a crippled deer that the State Fish and Game Department asked us to take care of. Many private parties ask us to take their animals, they buy them for a pet but soon the novelty wears off and then they have to find a home for the poor animal. If we were to accept every animal that is offered it would not be long before we would have as many animals as that other small city zoo in California, the one they have in San Diego. Ours is not a zoo in one sense of the word---it is a home for animals. We are small and fairly new, nine years old to be exact.

It still costs money to keep this home for animals going. All of our animals have to be fed just like they do in any other place. We feel that ours are fed a lot better than they are in a lot of other places, even though we do not have too much money. We have a small donation box at the entrance to the Zoo and it does pretty darn good. Also on the guided tours that in most places are given by the docents are given by me and we make a small charge of 10 cents per person, or a minimum charge of \$.250 for the tour. This is helping a lot as we have a tour almost every day of the school year. There are a lot of these groups that even after they have taken the tour and paid for it, will still send us a check to be used for the care of the animals. Why just recently I recieved a check from one group of kids for \$88.75, after they had taken the tour they went back to their school and decided to have a cookie and cupcake sale with all of the money to go to the Zoo.

Almost every organization in town has made a donation to our Zoo. Many of the people who visit the Zoo go home and tell their friends about our Zoo and they in turn come to visit us and often leave a
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THE ZOO WITH A TOWN---NOT A TOWN WITH A ZOO (Continued)

donation or mail us check. We even got a check from Gahna in Africa, and just a couple of weeks ago we recieved a check from Washington.

The local merchants are real good about helping us. The people that have restaurants save all the dry bread, and one of them that serves a lot of chicken dinners saves us all the chicken necks and backs. There is a lady in Sacramento who buys all of the chicken necks and backs she can find, keeps them for several weeks and brings us a quantity. This saves us quite a sum of money. All of our vegetables and fruit come from one market. Every once in a while one of the ranchers that is in town will stop by and drop off a bale or two of hay. One of the feed stores in the area calls me whenever he gets a load of hay and gives me all the broken bales---another big saving. It has been a long time since we have had to buy hay for our hoofed stock. We also get broken bales of straw for their bedding.

Maybe now you can see why we say that we have a zoo with a town---and not a town with a zoo. If it were not for all the help that we get from the people that come to visit us, we as a city could not afford the set-up we now have. The City has budgeted \$11,705.00 for maintenance and operation costs this fiscal year.

In closing I want to thank all of the AAZK members that have stopped by to visit us. Everyone of them has dropped something into the little collection box. Also I want to thank each one that has helped us procure animals. I want to especially thank the Association for the beautiful llama that was given to us.

A special thanks also to Dee White of the St. Louis Zoo for being instrumental in obtaining the Siberian tiger for our Zoo, and a thanks to all of the kids in Seattle Chapter for our nice harbor seal. I also want to say that as far as I know, Chapter 19 of the AAZK is one of the largest: Even though we only have a one-man operation zoo, we now have about ten members in our Chapter...let's see the rest of your chapters equal that!!!

AFRICAN AND AUSTRALIAN VELDT EXHIBIT

by Russel Williams, Indianapolis Zoo, Ind.

Starting in the spring of this year, the Indianapolis Zoo plans to start construction of a veldt display which we hope will attract additional thousands of visitors to the Zoo the first year of its completion, provided the necessary funds of about \$300,000.00 are available.

An area just west of the presently developed children's zoo, an area of approximately 41.2 acres, and bounded by the present railroad track and perimeter fence will be developed in an African veldt. A concrete moat will surround this area and be so designed that neither viewers nor animals will be aware of the restraints.

The new exhibit area may be regarded as simply a logical extension of the already existing hoofed stock area completed when the Zoo first
(continued)

African and Australian Veldt Exhibit (Cont'd.)

opened in 1964 and the present giraffe exhibit which was completed about four years ago. This latter exhibit now houses a pair of young Reticulated Giraffe, which we hope will soon present us with young. The major forms of animal life found in Africa will be exhibited in simulated natural enclosures. Depending on the compatibilities of the species, they will be exhibited in mixed groups.

Zoo visitors will enter the veldt from the main mall which will be to the south. There they will view spacious enclosures housing lions, cheetahs, and leopards. These large cats will be separated from the public by wire fencing to allow easy viewing, thus allowing much closer contact with the viewing public. This area will be on the right. On the left, we plan an outdoor exhibit area for the larger African species.

Entry into the African Fauna Building will be at the south end of the veldt area just north of the present site of the Education Building. At the present time, just to the left, we plan to display elephants, rhinos, and giraffe in spacious indoor moated enclosures. Within the building itself, a wide variety of fish, reptiles, amphibians, and small mammals will be exhibited to give the viewing public a good representative example of the African fauna. Among the species included quite possibly will be Secretary Birds, Vulturine Guinea Fowl, and Egyptian Vultures. Just before leaving the African Building, visitors will be able to view at least 50% of the veldt while looking through large glass windows with an extended flight cage in the foreground.

Walking north, along a slightly elevated walk way, giraffe, zebra, gnu, elephant, and rhino will be seen in a simulated water hole setting. Further on, will be found a woodland setting just for several small species of antelope and many species of African birds. At the northern most end of the veldt, people will be able to board the train for a ride through the veldt. The train will pass through a tunnel which will limit the animals to the veldt, and as we approach the large hoofed animals a guard rail will keep them in check while still allowing the smaller species free run of the entire area. The train will then pass over a cattle guard and exit just west of the Education Building.

Zoos of the world simply must face up to the fact that veldt areas are the coming thing in the zoo world because of the natural desire to display the animal in its natural setting as close as possible. Zoos are being pushed into this type of development, sometimes willingly and sometimes not, by visitors who marvel at how well the animal looks in the wild without quite realizing the dangers to the animals and keepers as well as the many other problems involved.

In such areas, the keeper often has the greater difficulty in telling which animals are feeding and drinking and which are not, and if they are how much. Is one or more overfeeding and thus likely to get fat with all the health implications that can imply. Unless stalls and holding areas are adequately designed, working with the animals to apply proper medication and for other things as well can be a problem as well as a real danger both to the animal as well as to the keeper. For example, just a few months ago in another veldt which I am charge of, a female Bennets Wallaby, which had exhibited absolutely no symptoms of even being sick was suddenly found dead.

African and Australian Veldt Exhibit (Cont'd.)

Several days before, I had been asked to collect stool samples and since I was instructed that these samples were needed right away, I had no chance to separate and mark the samples. I was simply instructed to go into the Wallaby and Kangaroo side of the house and get several samples since if either one showed any dangerous parasite we would simply treat them all. This I did. Later on I found out that the samples weren't even used. If they had been, this animal would probably be alive today.

Another serious problem inherent in this type of display is fighting. So far, this has not been a serious problem in our existing area. However, our area is not very big and the species we do have are not prone to aggression. These are just some of the problems that may be encountered in this type of operation.

Hatching of a Hyacinth Macaw (*Andorhynchus gyasenthinus*) by Ralph Small, Brookfield Zoo, Chicago.

On 30 April 1967 our female Hyacinth Macaw was 18 years old when she laid her first egg. The male was at least 13 years old when the first chick was hatched at the Brookfield Zoo. The parents did not care for the chick and it died in $2\frac{1}{2}$ days after hatching. In 1970 I purchased the pair from the zoo and promptly kept them in a unit in my basement. The cage is 7 feet wide, 14 feet long, 5 feet high. The feed and water pans are hooked on the door in the front of the cage. Another door inside allows the pans to pass through a second so there is only a place of about 6 inches by 2 feet that the birds can get out or bite you.

In the back of the cage is a 25 inch partition which is 5 feet wide. The nest box is a 50 gallon steel drum, laying on the floor. There is a 36 inch gate in the back of the cage that swings inside. When it swings inward, it connects with the partition so the birds can be locked in the cage or in their nest section. The partition can be made solid so no one can see the barrel from the front and the one side is covered. There is a $\frac{3}{8}$ inch peephole to see what is going on in the barrel.

The barrel opening is 9 inches high, 14 inches wide on the bottom, 10 inches on top with $\frac{3}{4}$ inch angle iron on the bottom of it. Tanbark filler is used in the barrel and about a gallon of water is used to add moisture to the tanbark. Two 48 inch fluorescent lights, vita light, are over head. Night lights are used at night. Gas heat is in the basement.

The parents are fed 8 parts sunflower seeds, 1 part pigeon food, $\frac{1}{2}$ part 50 - 50 canary or millet. A few monkey chow, raw peanuts, apple halves, banana, carrots, grapes and vitamins and minerals sprinkled over the fruit. (Escorale) Calcium and Vi Syneral .06cc to a pint of water. Vit water is always in the cage.

It took 26 to 29 days for the parents to hatch this egg. Parents did not show any signs of feeding or caring for the chick. The chick was cold when found at 0715 hours 30 March 1971. The chick weighed 18.6 gms. when hatched. The chick had a turtle-like head, no ear or eye openings. The chick was white fuzz with tan nails and bill. The chick had a short, stocky body about $2\frac{1}{2}$ to 3 inches.

Hatching of a Hyacinth Macaw (Cont'd)

The chick crawled on wing tips and feet the night of the hatching. The chick could hold its head up. The chick was fed the first time, 12 hours after hatching. Hi Protein Pablum with 1 drop of Vi Syneral and then fed every 2 hours day and night until its 9th day. The chick was placed in a Transparent Hen with temperature at 100°F. turned down to 98°F. In 24 hours a new diet was started: 1 part (by volume) Hi Protein Pablum, 1 part sunflower, 1 part myna chow, 1 part monkey chow, 1 part raw peanuts, minerals, salt, Via Mate, Via Myacin added to all diets. The mixture was blended until a fine meal with warm or hot water added to the meal. The formula was kept warm throughout the feedings. The chick was fed with a tiny spoon. At 5 days old the chick weighed 48 gms. Nails darker, eye slits, and ear openings showing. Almost tripled weight. At 7 days old the chick weighed 71.2 gms. About 4 times original weight. Pin feathers on back and body. Many dark areas on wing and head. Head bigger, bill soft, feet developing. New formula started to hold longer - more solid: 2 parts sunflower, 2 parts pablum, 1 part monkey chow, 1 part myna chow, $\frac{1}{2}$ part rabbit pellets, and Vita Gravel. At 10 days old weighed 118.3 gms. Placed in new brooder box 34" long 20" deep 12" wide. Temperature 88°F. Chick placed in a small box with sawdust on the bottom, paper towels over the sawdust. Paper towels changed at each feeding. This box placed in the brooder. Feet bigger and darker. Tail wider. Spots on the wing from laying on his back. Chick could not turn over on his own. A & D Ointment used on the spots.

On the 14th day the chick weighed 209.5 gms. Yawning alot. Nostrils enlarging. Pin feathers starting to come through the wings and the back. On the 17th day the chick weighed 285 gms. Exercising wings and sitting on tail. Wing span $8\frac{1}{2}$ ". Left eye slightly open. Eye tooth almost at tip of bill. Sits up in box and looks around. On the 21st day the chick weighed 403 gms. Right eye open at times, left eye is open. Tries to scratch head with foot. On the 24th day the chick weighed 489 gms. Feeding with larger spoon, on 3 to 4 hour feedings. Light areas around eye and lower bill. Dark skin over most of the body. On the 28th day the chick weighed 602 gms. Placed in larger brooder. Temperature 82°F. Stopped feeding at night when 26 days old. Likes to be handled and rubbed. Tail $\frac{1}{2}$ " long. Body 10" long. Wing span 14". Peanut butter added to the diet. Fed every 4 hours during the day. Gravel added to mix at one feeding about every 10 days. On the 29th day weighed 632 gms. On the 31st day weighed 675.5 gms. On the 35th day weighed 788 gms. Eye tooth gone. Body 12". Wing span 18". Bananas added to mix. On the 38th day 841 gms. weight. White area around eye and bill getting tinged. Foot $5\frac{1}{2}$ " front toe to back. On the 39th day weight 866 gms. On the 40th day weight 805 gms. On the 42th day weight 931 gms. Starting to perch. Head $3\frac{1}{4}$ ", 2" thick. Wing span 22". Length 14".

NOTICE!!

AAZK Bulletin is now being edited, printed and distributed at Topeka, Kansas and ALL mail for the Bulletin should be directed to Ken Kawata, Editor, AAZK Bulletin, Topeka Zoo, 635 Gage Blvd., Topeka, Ks 66606. Please do NOT send articles to National Headquarters.

Hatching of a Hyacinth Macaw (Cont'd.)

On the 45th day weight 987 gms. On the 49th day weight 1056 gms. First day of no weight gain. Temperature 80° F. in the brooder. On the 54th day weight 1153 gms. New formula started: 2 parts sunflower, 2 parts monkey chow, 2 parts pablum, 2 parts myna chow, 1 part rabbit pellets, Vita, gravel, all blended. Peanut butter and banana added. On the 56th day weight 1174 gms. Put into cage without heat. On the 60th day weight 1242 gms. On the 63th day weight 1277 gms. On the 67th day weight 13339 gms. Besides formula, chick is getting grape, slice of banana; chews on monkey chow. Here we started to run into problems. Crop won't completely empty. On the 70th day weight 1356 gms. Crop still full. Appears to be very hungry but always has food in crop. Watery stools. Baking soda water given and about an hour later milk of magnesia. On the 73th day weight 1279 gms. New formula started: 3 parts sunflower, 2 parts myna chow, 3 parts pablum, 1 part monkey chow. Blended in the blender. Vitamins and gravel added. On the 77th day weight 1331 gms. Night of the 76th day was very restless, noisy, and weak. Gave chick 1 teaspoon of milk of magnesia at 3:00 A.M. At 6:00 A.M. of the 77th day he regurgitated 3 or 4 pieces of grape, orange and apple, all with peel. Food was undigested. Instead of formula we started Hi Protein pablum with honey. He seemed very hungry but still had food in the crop. On the 78th day we started back on the formula. Used baby strained fruits in formula.

On the 84th day weight 1377 gms. Perch put into cage. Getting noisy, eating well. On the 91st day weight 1340 gms. Starting slimming down process, so he can fly. Trying to eat on his own. On the 98th day weight 1260 gms. Interested in playing, chewing, wants to fly; chewing a little on monkey chow. On the 112th day weight 1160 gms. Put into big cage with swing perch. Feed in cups. Still spoon feeding formula, not too interested in eating. Wing feathers clipped. On the 120th day weight 1160 gms. On the 140th day weight 1190 gms. On 3 feedings a day (spoon). Eating very little on his own. On the 180th day weight 1210 gms. Practically on his own. Still handfeeding. Enjoys bananas more than any other fruit. On the 252nd day ; 36 weeks old; parents laid 1 egg. On the 256th day, parents laid a 2nd egg. On 280 days; 40 weeks old, 1st egg hatched in basement by parents 4 January 1972. 2nd egg not fertile.

Parents cared for chick until 42nd day. Took 28 days for the egg to hatch. Question comes up about "Should chick be fed at night?" Do parent birds feed at night? We know for a fact, these parents did feed their chick at night. We could hear them at 2:00 A.M. and 4:00 A.M. about the 2nd week. Parents were feather plucking their 2nd chick. We feed the chick 4 times a day. Placed in a brooder without heat. His own body heat keeps the box 80° F. Chick is still being fed at present 4 times a day. 21 March 1972 just before we left

Hatching of a Hyacinth Macaw (Cont'd.)

to come to Hawaii, 1st egg of second clutch for this year was laid. Hand feeding is the only way to save some chicks; its a very rewarding experience. Saves many that otherwise would not live.

"Help Me If You Can I'm Feeling Down!"

Presented at the AAZK Convention, Honolulu, Hawaii, March, 1972 by Maurice Peterson, Vilas Zoo, Madison Wisconsin.

January 16, 1972 - A male 4 year old giraffe was found in his enclosure with his hind legs extended straight out from his body in a spread-eagle position. He was unable to rise. A large canvas was placed under him and he was pulled on this canvas about 30 feet into a room equipped with an electric hoist. His estimated weight was 1500 lbs. He was given 15 cc. of Flo-cillin and placed in a sling with his hind legs strapped with a leather strap 4 feet apart. His temperature was 96.4.

January 17, 1972 - While still in the sling, it was noted that his urine was extremely dark (old blood). This specimen was checked but nothing significant was found.

January 19, 1972 - He was administered 15 cc. Flo-cillin and his temperature was 100.2.

January 20, 1972 - He was removed from the sling but immediately fell to the ground, therefore he was placed in the sling and 6 inches of sand placed in his enclosure for better footing.

January 25, 1972 - His urine cleared up and his temperature again was taken. It was 100.1.

January 26, 1972 - The animal attempted to lay down in the sling and the sling was taken off. It made 4 attempts to lay down but did not have the confidence to lay down. The straps holding the animal's hind legs were taken off. The animal then did not lay down until the 28th.

January 28, 1972 - He layed down with front legs normal and his hind legs both out to one side. He could not get up so he was again placed in the sling and gotten up with the aid of a hoist.

January 29, 1972 - The sling was again taken off since we feared he would be getting some sores.

"Help Me If You Can I'm Feeling Down!" (Cont'd.)

January 30, 1972 - He layed down in a normal position but again we had to get him up with the aid of a sling and hoist. The sling was again taken off. He did not lay down again until February 2.

February 2, 1972 - He layed down and got up by himself. He then stayed up for almost 48 hours and then layed down in a normal position but again we had to help him up.

February 3, 1972 - He was up all day and all night.

February 4, 1972 - He layed down and we helped him up with the hoist again.

February 5, 1972 - He did not lay down.

February 6, 1972 - Again fell down straddle-legged.

February 7, 1972 - The sling was then put on lined with foam rubber and left on until February 13th.

February 13, 1972 - We then took the sling off for good. His legs were left strapped 4 feet apart and since that date the animal has been getting up and down readily. He has never been off food or water and was completely docile until March 10 when he made his first attempts to kick. We are going to leave his hind legs strapped for another 15 days.

April 15, 1972 - The giraffe is doing well.

NOTICE!

The staff of the AAZK Bulletin wishes to initiate a new organization and format, and we want you, the Keeper, to be directly involved. Throughout the exisiting months of 1972, special issues of the Bulletin will be dedicated to the main theme or topic. What we want you to do is to actively participate in sharing your knowledge and experiences by submitting articles, photographs, drawings, etc. to the Bulletin. Topics will vary and everyone can have an opportunity to help fellow keepers.

Topics of concern are:

1. Role of Education in Zoos: We would like to know your opinion on the importance of education in the zoos. How can you, as a keeper educate the public toward conservation and ecology and what you, as an individual, and your zoo as a whole, are doing. All articles MUST be submitted to the Bullentin no later than 15 July 1972.

NOTICE!

2. Role of Children's Zoo in a Modern Zoo, Pro and Con. Should Children's Zoos Exist? Should direct public contact and feeding be made with your vulnerable animals? Please send us your ideas, views and experiences regarding children's zoos and public feeding of animals. Deadline: 15 September 1972.

3. Hand-raising Endangered Species: Raising young animals is a difficult task. If you or your zoo has participated in hand-raising endangered species, please share your knowledge. Deadline: 1 November 1972

LETTER TO THE EDITOR

I would like to start a film library of other zoos, both for my own use and as a point of reference when planning new exhibits or improving old ones.

I would like to send a roll of 35 mm film to anyone working in other zoos who has a camera and would be willing to take some pictures of some of their exhibits they feel work quite well. Or even just some pictures from different sections of their zoo. Then send the film back to me, with a short letter of explanation of what is on the film. I will have the film developed. This film will be a 20 exposure roll of slide film to keep the cost down and the time needed to take a complete roll of pictures. Please write me at my home address: Box #261, Meridian, Idaho 83642. Thank you. Curtis Williams, Boise City Zoo

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